

# National Park Service Department of the Interior

## Big South Fork National River & Recreation Area Obed Wild & Scenic River



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#### **No Fooling! All Campgrounds are Open on April 1st.**

Make your reservations for Bandy Creek, Group Camp, Blue Heron, and Bear Creek at [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) and for Station Camp at (931) 319-6893. No reservations needed for Alum Ford.

**There's Something for Everyone at Spring Planting & Music Festival on Saturday April 30th.** Guided Bird Walk at 8 am (ET), Kids Fun Run at 9 am, Adult Runs at 10 am, crafts, heritage farm life demonstrations, livestock displays, and music all day long at Bandy Creek area. Crafts and Food vendors will be on site. Enjoy a Wildflower Walk at 10 am at Leatherwood Ford. Bring a folding chair and sit under the big tent for more than 10 different performances.

**Show Us What You Love Most about the Big South Fork** and enter the Annual Photo contest. Submission categories include Action/Adventure, Artistic, Cultural, Flora & Fauna, Kentucky Landscapes, Tennessee Landscapes, and Youth. For more info go to [www.nps.gov/biso/planyourvisit/biso-photo-contest.htm](http://www.nps.gov/biso/planyourvisit/biso-photo-contest.htm).



**Big South Fork Railway season opens April 1st.**  
Reservations can be made at [www.bsfsry.com](http://www.bsfsry.com).

### Obed Wild and Scenic River

**Learn How to Protect Hemlock Trees on Saturday, April 9th.** Obed is partnering with the Emory River Watershed Assoc., TN Citizens for Wilderness Planning, and TN Div. of Forestry to host a workshop at 8:30 am (ET) starting at Morgan County Visitor Center in Wartburg, TN. The free event will focus on cleaning up & preserving Potters Falls area & along Crooked Fork Creek & teach landowners how to protect hemlocks from the deadly Woolly Adelgid.

**Kick off National Park Week with a Wildflower Hike on Saturday, April 16th.** Meet at Lilly Overlook parking area at 10 am (ET). We'll take the Point Trail, a 3.8 mile round-trip hike over moderate terrain and be greeted by trillium, bluebells, and several different species of orchids & violets. Participants are encouraged to wear study footwear, bring water & sack lunch.

**Join us for a Spring Owl Prowl on Friday, April 22 at 8 pm (ET)** at Lilly Bluff Overlook Parking Lot. Bring a flashlight, wear sturdy shoes, and dress appropriately.

### **April 16 to 24 is National Parks Week!**

**Camp Free the Entire Week** at Rock Creek Campground (Obed), Alum Ford Campground (Big South Fork), and the backcountry in both parks.

**Attend the 2016 Big South Fork & Obed Public Meeting on Science in the Parks on Wednesday, April 20.** Registration starts at 8 am (ET) at the Historic Rugby Visitor Center, 1331 Rugby Parkway, Rugby, TN.

**Join Us for the Tennessee National Parks Exhibit Opening at the Knoxville Airport on Thursday, April 21st.** The ribbon cutting happens 10 am (ET) and features Big South Fork, Obed, and seven other National Park parks.

**Bandy Creek Visitor Center**  
**(423) 286-7275 or visit us at:**  
[www.nps.gov/biso](http://www.nps.gov/biso)  
[Twitter@BigSouthForkNRR](https://twitter.com/BigSouthForkNRR)  
[www.facebook.com/BigSouthForkNRRRA](https://www.facebook.com/BigSouthForkNRRRA)

**Obed Visitor Center**  
**(423) 346-6294 or visit us at:**  
[www.nps.gov/obed](http://www.nps.gov/obed)  
[Twitter@ObedWSR](https://twitter.com/ObedWSR)  
[www.facebook.com/ObedWSR](https://www.facebook.com/ObedWSR)